

**TITLE SEVEN - BICYCLES  
ARTICLE 541  
LICENSING AND OPERATION**

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**CROSS REFERENCES**

Pedacycle Defined -- See Vehicle Code §102  
Hitching onto Vehicle -- See Vehicle Code §3711  
Lights on Bicycles -- See Vehicle Code §4303

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**541.01 DEFINITION**

**Bicycle** means a vehicle propelled solely by human powered pedals. The term does not mean a three-wheeled human powered pedal driven vehicle with a main driving wheel 20 inches in diameter or under and primarily designed for children six (6) years of age or younger. (12123 §1 2/19/75; 13984 §1 6/10/02)

**541.02 SECURED AND LOST BICYCLES**

1. **Secured Bicycle:** A bicycle is defined as a "secured bicycle" when it is made inoperable by application to the bicycle of a lock device which utilizes a key, combination lock or other such mechanism.

2. **Lost Bicycle:** A bicycle is defined as a "lost bicycle" when it is found unsecured on any public alley, street, parkway, thoroughfare, public school property, park property, City property or any other public property in the City.

**3. Handling of Lost Bicycles**

A. A lost and found bicycle collection and retrieval area shall be designated by the Chief of the Police Department. (13609 §1 10/16/97)

B. Any lost bicycle shall be removed by the law enforcement officer or other person designated by the Chief of the Police Department to the lost and found area. (13609 §1 10/16/97)

C. The lost bicycle shall be returned to its owner upon proof of ownership satisfactory to the Chief of the Police Department or his designee, within 90 days of the date the bicycle is taken into possession, after said period, the Department may dispose of said bicycle according to applicable law. (12123 §2 2/19/75; 13609 §1 10/16/97)

**541.03 OWNER TO REGISTER WITH THE CHIEF OF POLICE**

Every owner or operator of any bicycle shall file with the Chief of Police a complete description of such bicycle upon a blank form to be provided for the purpose, which filing shall constitute a registration of such bicycle. Such registration shall be serially numbered and be kept on file in the office designated by the Chief of Police as a public record. (40480 §3 11/29/38; 13609 §1 10/16/97)

**541.04 REGISTRATION; TAG; FEES**

A. Immediately upon the registration of a bicycle, the Chief of Police, or someone designated by him, shall affix an identification tag, serially numbered to correspond with the registration of the bicycle. The tag shall thereafter remain affixed to the bicycle unless removed by the Police Bureau for cause, or for re-registration. (13609 §1 10/16/97)

B. No person shall use or operate a bicycle upon any of the public alleys, streets, parkways, thoroughfares, park property and City property in the City without being registered by obtaining a license after registering with the Chief of Police or his designee, unless the bicycle owner provides sufficient proof upon request that he is not a resident of the City. (12123 §3 2/19/75; 13609 §1 10/16/97)

C. The Chief of Police shall, annually, publish a list of dates, times and where bicycle owners can get bicycles registered. (13984 §1 6/10/02)

#### **541.05 CANCELLATION OF REGISTRATION; REMOVAL OF TAG**

The Chief of Police shall have the authority to cancel the registration of and remove the identification tag from any bicycle being operated upon any street or public place in the City in an unsafe manner, or in violation of any State law or local ordinance. Such cancellation of registration and removal of tag shall be in addition to other penalties provided hereunder. (4080 §7 11/29/38)

#### **541.06 REPORT OF CHANGE OF OWNERSHIP OR DISMANTLING**

Within forty-eight (48) hours after any bicycle registered hereunder shall have changed ownership or been dismantled and take out of operation, such information shall be reported to the Chief of Police by the person in whose name the bicycle has been registered. (5278 §1 4/18/45)

#### **541.07 IMPOUNDING BY POLICE FOR IMPROPER REGISTRATION**

Any bicycle being ridden, used or found on the streets of the City, without a registration tag, or with an altered or mutilated serial number, shall be considered as not being properly registered and shall be taken up and impounded by the Bureau of Police until the person claiming ownership shall establish his right of ownership. (9843 §2 7/3/62; 13984 §1 6/10/02)

#### **541.08 KEEPING TO RIGHT**

The rider of a bicycle upon a street or roadway shall ride as near as practicable within five (5') feet of the right hand curb or edge of the roadway, except when passing a standing or other vehicle or making a left hand turn at an intersection, and at all times shall obey the traffic laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the City of Allentown. (4080 x2110 11/29/38; 13609 §1 10/16/97; 14311 §1 8/18/05)

#### **541.09 TRICK RIDING**

No operator of any bicycle shall carry any other person upon the bar, handle or other part of any bicycle and no other person shall so ride upon any bicycle. No operator of a bicycle shall do trick riding such as riding the same without having his hands on the handlebars. (4080 §11 11/29/38)

#### **541.10 BRAKES; WARNING DEVICE**

Every bicycle shall be equipped with brakes in good condition and lights, if operated during darkness. (4080 §13 11/29/38; 13609 §1 10/16/97; 13984 §1 6/10/02)

#### **541.99 PENALTY**

Any person violating the provisions of this article shall be fined not more than Twenty-five (\$25.00) Dollars and, in default of payment of fine and costs, imprisoned not more than ten (10) days. For all sections of this Ordinance, except Section 541.08, shall be Fifty (\$50) Dollars. (4080 §15 11/29/38 14311 §1 8/18/05)